

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 ERDA-05 FEA-01 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07

NRC-05 /107 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:DSWILSON:KG

APPROVED BY EB/ORF:SWBOSWORTH

OES/NET/IM:MPROCHNIK (DRAFT)

OES/NET/IM:JDEVINE (DRAFT)

EUR/WE:EBEIGEL (DRAFT)

ERDA:MMCDONOUGH (DRAFT)

EB/ORF/FSE:LRRAICHT

----- 112676

P 032025Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 219318

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ENRG, IT

SUBJECT: US-ITALY ENERGY WORKING GROUP (EWG)

REF: ROME 13877; STATE 208050; ROME 12765

1. WE PROPOSE THAT EWG MEETING TAKE PLACE DURING FIRST  
HALF OF OCTOBER IN ROME, WITH SPECIFIC DATE TO BE SET  
ONCE WE HAVE A BETTER FIX ON THE SCHEDULE OF IEA AND  
POSSIBLE CIEC MEETINGS DURING THAT PERIOD. ERDA  
INFORMS US IT WOULD BE UNABLE TO ATTEND A MEETING IN ROME  
PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1. WE FEEL IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT  
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THAT THEY PARTICIPATE AND BE REPRESENTED AT A SENIOR LEVEL

AND WILL ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT AN ACCEPTABLE DATE WHICH WILL ENSURE THEIR PRESENCE AT THE MEETING. PLEASE CONFIRM WHETHER ABOVE TIME FRAME IS ACCEPTABLE TO MIGLIUOLO. IN MEANTIME WE WOULD APPRECIATE HIS SUGGESTIONS REGARDING AN AGENDA FOR THE MEETING.

2. WE HAVE DISCUSSED WITH ERDA AND NRC MIGLIUOLO'S PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN ROME 13877 REGARDING (A) SUPPLY OF URANIUM ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY, (B) WASTE MANAGEMENT AND (C) NRC LICENSING. FOLLOWING ARE OUR COMMENTS REFLECTING THESE DISCUSSIONS WHICH SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO MIGLIUOLO.

3. ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY: HELFRICH THOROUGHLY BRIEFED MIGLIUOLO AT JUNE 3 WASHINGTON MEETING ON THE SEQUENCE FOR POSSIBLE ITALIAN SUPPLY TO IEA PROJECT OF COMPRESSORS, HEAT EXCHANGERS AND SPECIAL COMPONENTS AND INSTRUMENTATION FOR GASEOUS DIFFUSION. WE MADE CLEAR AT THE TIME THAT ANY EVENTUAL AWARDED OF BID HINGED UPON THE FOLLOWING FACTORS -- FIRST, CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THE NUCLEAR FUEL ASSURANCE ACT, THEN A DECISION BY UEA TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PROJECT AND INVITE AN ITALIAN BID. AT SUCH A POINT UEA WOULD THEN REQUEST ERDA AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE ITALIANS SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE COMPONENTS IN QUESTION. ERDA HAS CONFIRMED TO THE ITALIANS THAT IT WOULD GIVE ITS APPROVAL. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, NUCLEAR FUEL ASSURANCE ACT IS NOT PASSED BY CONGRESS OR IF LAW PASSES BUT UEA DECIDES FOR SOME REASON NOT TO GO FORTH WITH PROJECT, QUESTION OF ITALIAN SUPPLY OF COMPONENTS WOULD BECOME A MOOT ISSUE. FYI: NUCLEAR FUEL ASSURANCE ACT PASSED HOUSE AUGUST 4 WITH FINANCIAL GUARANTEES CONSIDERABLY WEAKER THAN THOSE SOUGHT BY UEA. SENATE CONSIDERATION OF BILL UNLIKELY THIS SESSION. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT LEGISLATION COULD EVENTUALLY BE APPROVED WHICH UEA CONSIDERS TO BE UNACCEPTABLE CALLING INTO QUESTION THE PROJECT. END FYI. -

4. WASTE MANAGEMENT: ERDA WOULD WELCOME THE SENDING OF AN ITALIAN DELEGATION TO THE US TO EXPLORE AREAS FOR POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN WASTE MANAGEMENT. GIVEN THE NUMBER OF TOPICS THE ITALIANS ARE INTERESTED IN  
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DISCUSSING (PARA 2C ROME 9924) AND THE LIKELY TRAVEL INVOLVED (WASHINGTON, D.C., RICHLAND, WASHINGTON; LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO), ERDA FEELS THAT A TWO WEEK VISIT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. ERDA ASKS THAT IT BE GIVEN 45 DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE VISIT TO SET UP AN APPROPRIATE PROGRAM AND ASSURE THAT ERDA TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WILL BE AVAILABLE. FYI: ERDA CONSIDERS THE VISIT TO BE EXPLORATORY IN NATURE AND WOULD EXPECT THAT ANY DECISION

ON FOLLOW-ON COOPERATION WOULD BE BASED ON MUTUAL BENEFITS TO BE GAINED BY BOTH SIDES. END FYI. EMBASSY MAY ALSO WISH TO REMIND MIGLIUOLO THAT US IS PRESENTLY STUDYING HOW INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANGAGEMENT MIGHT BE FACILITATED AND BROADENED (STATE 210069). ANY INITIATIVES STEMMING FROM THIS STUDY ARE LIKELY TO BE TIED IN SOME FORM TO EXISTING MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS IEA/NEA.

5. NRC LICENSING: WE HAVE DISCUSSED MIGLIUOLO'S COMMENTS (PARA 2 D ROME 13877) WITH NRC AND THEY ASK THAT A FORMAL DETAILED PROPOSAL FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF ITALIAN

TECHNICAL PERSONNEL TO NRC FUEL LICENSING GROUPS BE COORDINATED THROUGH CNEN. NRC SUGGESTS AS AN APPROPRIATE CONTACT IN ROME CARLO ZAFFIRO, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CNEN-NRC ARRANGEMENT FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE. ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ENERGY, MEETING AGENDA, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE219318  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DSWILSON:KG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760335-0984  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760991/aaaadabu.tel  
**Line Count:** 132  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 ROME 13877, 76 STATE 208050, 76 ROME 12765  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 AUG 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** WITHDRAWN <04 MAY 2004 by izenbei0, REFER TO DOE>; RELEASED <26 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 AUG 2004 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US-ITALY ENERGY WORKING GROUP (EWG)  
**TAGS:** ENRG, IT, US  
**To:** ROME  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006